

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney Southern District of Indiana

10 West Market Street Suite 2100 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3048

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(317)226-6333 TDD (317)226-5438

FAX NUMBERS: Criminal (317)226-6125 Administration (317)226-5176 Civil (317)226-5027 FLU (317) 226-6133 OCDETF (317)226-5953

CONTACT PERSONS:

Claudia Cummings (317) 226-6333 office (317) 590-7928 mobile

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ELIZABETH LANG AND FOUR OTHERS FEDERALLY INDICTED FOR FRAUDULENT IMMIGRATION DOCUMENT SCHEME:

Indictment Unsealed Today

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that ELIZABETH LANG, 40, Greenwood, Indiana; ADAM LANG, 41, Hollywood, Florida; XIAO QI GU, a/k/a David Gu, 34, Elmhurst, New York; YI FU CHENG, a/k/a Steve Cheng, 40, Flushings, New York; and YANG CHENGDONG, 40, Flushings, New York; were indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis on eight counts including Conspiracy to Unlawfully Produce Identification Document; Unlawful Production of Identification Documents; Fraud and False Use of Passports; and Fraud and

Misuse of Visas and other Immigration Documents; following an investigation by the Postal Inspectors Central Indiana Financial Crimes Task Force, Marion County-Indianapolis Safe Streets Task Force, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Department of State, Diplomatic Security Service.

The indictment alleges that beginning in late 2000 and continuing until November 2003, ELIZABETH LANG and her husband, ADAM LANG, assisted Chinese nationals in acquiring Indiana driver's licenses and identification cards to which the Chinese nationals were not lawfully entitled to receive. Initially, the LANGs, for a fee, would acquire fraudulent Chinese driver's licenses and translate them into English so that a Chinese national could obtain either an Indiana driver's license or an identification card. After changes at the BMV that imposed greater restrictions in proving identification and residency, the LANGs acquired fraudulent United States Visas, Immigration I-94 arrival/departure records, and foreign passports from their sources to assist Chinese nationals in obtaining Indiana driver's licenses and identification cards. Over the course of these years, the LANGs used three different sources from the state of New York for these fraudulent documents. XIAO QI GU, a/k/a David Gu, YI FU CHENG, a/k/a Steve Cheng, and YANG CHENGDONG have also been charged by the grand jury for supplying false and fraudulent passports, visas, and other documents to ELIZABETH LANG for use by Chinese nationals. The indictment also alleges that these individuals sent Chinese nationals from New York and other states to Indiana to

obtain Indiana driver's licenses and identification cards through the assistance of ELIZABETH LANG.

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney, stated, "A driver's license issued in the United States is one of the most valuable government documents produced. It provides freedom and opportunity to travel, to work, to open bank accounts, and to conduct other important activities of daily life. More importantly, a drivers license serves as a universal identification tool. State agencies rely on the validity of United States immigration documents and foreign passports, and the foundation for our identification system is put at grave risk when fraudulent documents are produced and used. For someone to commit the crimes alleged here, is a potential danger to all of us and certainly a slap in the face of our fine law-abiding immigrants who worked hard to rightfully obtain this piece of the American Dream."

Yeudele Allen, Postal Inspector in Charge in this area, echoed U.S. Attorney Brooks and said, "The success of this investigation is a wonderful example of the things that are possible when law enforcement agencies pool their resources." Inspector Allen added, "The criminal activity that resulted in these indictments has potential impact in several states. The combined resources of federal, state, and local agencies enable us to extend our enforcement efforts, more than matching the reach of criminals. I am proud of our Postal Inspectors and the enhancement of public safety offered by the Central Indiana Financial Crimes Task Force."

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Marion County Prosecutor Carl Brizzi added, "The charges brought by the federal government demonstrate the scope and severity of the fraud committed at the BMV. We are grateful for federal assistance in this investigation."

"It is imperative that we put a stop to document fraud," said BMV Commissioner Mary L. Perez. "I am pleased that the BMV can work with law enforcement agencies to ensure that the documents we issue in Indiana are secure and are based on verified identities."

According to Assistant United States Attorney Sharon M. Jackson, who is prosecuting the case for the government, "While none of the individuals who received the fraudulent identification have any known links to terrorism, there was no way for those charged in this indictment to know the intentions of those they assisted."

ELIZABETH LANG, who faces a maximum of 90 years imprisonment, is charged in each of the eight counts of the indictment. ADAM LANG is charged in Counts 1-3, 5, and 7, and faces a maximum of 45 years imprisonment. XIAO QI GU, a/k/a David Gu is charged in Counts 1 and 2 and could serve up to 30 years in prison. YI FU CHENG, a/k/a Steve Cheng is charged in Counts 1, 3, 5, and 7. YANG CHENGDONG is charged in Counts 1, 4, 6, and 8. CHENG and CHENGDONG each face a maximum of 45 years in prison.

Counts 1 and 2 each carry a maximum possible prison sentence of 15 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. Counts 3 through 8 each carry a maximum possible prison sentence of 10 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. The indictment also

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seeks forfeiture of the proceeds of these crimes from the individuals charged. Property specifically named for forfeiture includes a home located at 4947 Kilda Drive in Greenwood, a 1998 BMW, \$13,000 in cash, bank holdings and jewelry.

An initial hearing will be held on July 12, 2004 before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis for ELIZABETH and ADAM LANG. XIAO QI GU, a/k/a David Gu was arrested in New York on Monday, June 21, 2004 by Postal Inspectors, appeared before a U.S. Magistrate there and was ordered to appear before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis on July 12, 2004. YI FU CHENG a/k/a Steve Cheng is in state custody in New York. YANG CHENGDONG has not been arrested as of yet.

The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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